



TOYAMA 67.001AUS

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Matsumoto, Kazuko) Group Art Unit : 1634
Appl. No. : 09/771,439)
Filed : January 26, 2001)
For : METHOD FOR SEPARATING)
AND COLLECTING NUCLEIC)
ACIDS)
Examiner : Zitomer, Stephanie W.

AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed September 10, 2002, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to enter the following amendments and consider the following arguments.

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

The paragraph beginning at page 2, line 22 has been amended as follows:

That is, the present invention provides the following.

(1) A method for collecting nucleic acids, which comprises:

a step of bringing a sample nucleic acid solution into contact with a nucleic acid-immobilized substrate comprising a substrate and two or more kinds of single-stranded nucleic acids separately immobilized on the substrate, to allow hybridization of the immobilized single-stranded nucleic acids and single-stranded nucleic acids complementary to the immobilized single-stranded nucleic acids, and

a step of collecting each of the hybridized single-stranded nucleic acids separately according to immobilized portions of the immobilized nucleic acids, without disassembling the nucleic acid-immobilized substrate.